

with it. If one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.”

So it is with the body of Americans, and a nation that strives to be one America. Every one of our communities is inextricably linked in suffering and rejoicing, in sickness and in health. And that is why we must work together in every community to stop this cruel disease. Black or white, gay or straight, rich or poor, you name it, we have to stop it.

Now I'd like to present America's Surgeon General, our Nation's family doctor, whose deep commitment to advancing our country's health is embodied in the 200-year-old guiding principle of our public health service that you best protect the health of the entire nation when you reach out to the most vulnerable people.

Dr. David Satcher.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:16 p.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. In his remarks, the President referred to AIDS activist Denise Stokes, member, Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

Statement on Emergency Funding for the HIV/AIDS Initiative in Minority Communities

October 28, 1998

Today I am making available to the Department of Health and Human Services an additional \$217 million in emergency funding. These funds were provided in P.L. 105-277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, which I signed into law on Wednesday, October 21st.

These funds will provide \$50 million to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to address the HIV/AIDS crisis facing the African-American community and other racial and ethnic minority communities due to the changing demographics of the disease. These funds are available for HHS to transfer to other agencies for several important purposes:

- to expand and improve access to state-of-the-art HIV/AIDS therapies;
- to strengthen and expand targeted HIV/AIDS effective prevention and intervention activities;

- to support HIV/AIDS substance abuse activities;
- to provide critical technical assistance in high-risk communities; and
- to build and sustain HIV/AIDS infrastructure.

In addition, these emergency funds will provide HHS with \$139 million to prepare for and manage the response to the medical and public health consequences of a chemical-biological weapons incident. Of the \$139 million provided, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will use \$127 million to establish a civilian pharmaceutical stockpile and to improve public health surveillance, communications, epidemiologic capabilities, and laboratory capacity to respond to a chemical-biological weapons incident. HHS' Office of Emergency Preparedness will use \$7 million to enhance medical response systems for a chemical-biological weapons incident, including funds to increase the number of local first responder teams. The remaining funds are for one-time projects initiated by Congress.

Finally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will receive \$28 million for global polio eradication and measles elimination efforts.

I am disappointed that Congress has chosen to earmark individual projects within the emergency funding provided by P.L. 105-277 for HHS' Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund and has done so in such a way that I must request all of the funds provided or none at all.

Statement on Signing the Digital Millennium Copyright Act

October 28, 1998

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 2281, the "Digital Millennium Copyright Act." This Act implements two landmark treaties that were successfully negotiated by my Administration in 1996 and to which the Senate gave its advice and consent to ratification on October 21, 1998. The Act also limits the liability of online service providers for copyright infringement under certain conditions.